

*Main Office
400 North Tampa Street, Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6358 (Fax)*



*Post Office Box 600
200 West Forsyth Street, Room 700
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/232-2682
904/232-2620 (Fax)*

*2110 First Street, Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
941/461-2200
941/461-2219 (fax)*

*U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida*

*80 North Hughey Avenue, Room 201
Orlando, Florida 32801
407/648-7500
407/648/7643 (Fax)*

Reply to: Tampa, FL

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**TWENTY ONE INDIVIDUALS INDICTED FOR DEFRAUDING
MCDONALD'S CORP. AND ITS CUSTOMERS
IN PROMOTIONAL PRIZE CONTEST**

Jacksonville, FL - United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, Mac Cauley, today announced the return of an indictment in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, FL, naming 21-individuals who are charged with conspiracy to commit mail fraud in a nationwide scheme to defraud the McDonald's Corporation and its customers by fraudulently manipulating McDonald's promotional prize contests. The indictment alleges that as far back as the late 1980's, Jerome P. Jacobson, Director of Security for Simon Marketing Inc., embezzled more than \$20 million worth of high value winning McDonald's promotional game pieces from his employer. The indictment further alleges Jacobson then distributed the winning game pieces to individuals who personally redeemed the game pieces or acted as recruiters and who thereafter, recruited friends, relatives and associates to fraudulently represent themselves as legitimate winners of high-value winning McDonald's promotional game pieces, some of which were valued at \$1 million. Simon Marketing Inc., is headquartered in Los Angeles, California, and has offices in the Atlanta, Georgia, area where Jacobson worked. Simon Marketing Inc., was contracted by McDonald's to administer its promotional games. In addition to the conspiracy charge, Jacobson is charged with eight additional counts of mail fraud.

The FBI investigation called operation “Final Answer” examined games marketed by Simon Marketing Inc., that were alleged to have been “fixed”. Those games included:

“Monopoly Game at McDonald’s”

“Hatch, Match, and Win”

“When the USA Wins, You Win”

“The Deluxe Monopoly Game”

“The Monopoly and More Game at McDonald’s”

“Disney’s Masterpiece Collection Trivia Challenge at McDonald’s”

“Who Wants to be a Millionaire Game”

“Win on the Spot”

“Pick Your Prize Monopoly”

The investigation was initiated by the Jacksonville Office of the FBI. Numerous FBI field offices throughout the United States have assisted in this continuing investigation. McDonald’s provided essential assistance in the investigation and has cooperated fully with the FBI and the United States Attorney’s Office in the Middle District of Florida.

Conspiracy to commit mail fraud is a violation of Title 18 U.S. Code, Section 1341, which is a violation of Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 371. The maximum penalty for committing a single count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud is five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and restitution.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark Devereaux.

Names and charges of those indicted:

Jerome P. Jacobson.....age 58....Lawrenceville, Georgia
one count conspiracy and eight counts mail fraud
Robin Lisa Colombo.....age 40...Orlando, Florida
one count conspiracy and seven counts mail fraud
William R. Fisher.....age 62...Jacksonville, Florida
one count conspiracy and five counts mail fraud
Gloria Brown.....age 43...Jacksonville, Florida
one count conspiracy and two counts mail fraud
Andrew M. Glomb.....age 58...Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
one count conspiracy and one count mail fraud
James P. Faherty.....age 40...Orlando, Florida
one count conspiracy and one count mail fraud

Each of following are charged with one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud:

Marvin Braun.....age 58...Coral Gables, Florida
Stacy L. Breegle.....age 37...Fredericksburg, Virginia
George Chandler.....age 29...Westminster, South Carolina
Wiley R. Couturier.....age 59...Marietta, Georgia
John F. Davis.....age 44....Granburg, Texas
Michael L. Hoover.....age 56....Westerly, Rhode Island
Ronald E. Hughey.....age 56....Anderson, South Carolina
Jerry Lee Kenny.....age 42....Front Royal, Virginia
Linda Baker.....age 48....Westminster, South Carolina
Noah Dwight Baker, Sr....age 49....Westminster, South Carolina
Brenda S. Phenis.....age 50....Westminster, South Carolina
Victor E. Marchitello.....age 52.....Harrison City, Pennsylvania
Steven L. Sinder.....age 55....Rye Brook, New York
Earl Stuart.....age 67....Miami, Florida
Stanley Warwick.....age 69....Burr Ridge, Illinois

NOTE: A copy of the indictment is available at 12:30 PM today on the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida website located at:
www.usdoj.gov/usao/flm/pr.